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| Applicant(s) | Gallagher, Robert T. | <p style="text-align: right;">12A 11-18-02 mg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">RECEIVED NOV 18 2002</p> |
| Serial No. | 09/273,197 | |
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| Group Art Unit | 2665 | |
| Examiner Name | D. Ryman | |
| Attorney Docket No. | 100.044US01 (formerly 500.714US1) | |
| Title: DIGITAL RETURN PATH FOR HYBRID FIBER/COAX NETWORK | | |

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2600

The Office Action mailed on July 2, 2002 has been received and carefully reviewed. Consideration of the remarks set forth below is respectfully requested.

A Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Office Action, thereby moving the deadline for response from October 2, 2002 to November 2, 2002, accompanies this response.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraphs to correct typographical errors:

Third Paragraph of Page 4:

A 1

The use of baseband, digital transmission in the upstream over optical link 105 provides several advantages over traditional analog transmission. For example, the performance of the return path over link 105 can be monitored in real time. This provides, among other advantages, the opportunity for real-time analysis of data integrity, e.g., monitoring bit error rate link performance monitoring. Further, the field set-up of the optical distribution node is simplified over conventional approaches since issues related to, for example, complex balancing of tilt, level and average power in analog equipment to achieve optimum analog laser performance have been removed.